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« Al-Samaw'al versus al-Kūhī on the Depression of the Horizon ». *Centaurus*, 45 (2003), pp. 116-129.

Benno van Dalen

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## « Al-Samaw'al versus al-Kūhī on the Depression of the Horizon ». Centaurus, 45 (2003), pp. 116-129.

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- <sup>1</sup> *What is Seen of Sky and Sea* (edited and translated by Rashed in *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy*, 11 (2001), pp. 157-204) is one of only very few treatises by the 10th century geometer Abū Sahl al-Kūhī that deals with topics outside of mathematics proper, namely the area of the surface of the sea and the part of an altitude circle that can be seen by an observer at the top of a tower on an island. Al-Kūhī's method is criticized by the 12th century physician Ibn Yaḥyā al-Samaw'al al-Maghribī, who spent the last part of his life near Marāgha after having traveled extensively, in his important but mostly unstudied work *The Exposure of the Errors of the Astronomers*. The authors discuss al-Samaw'al's criticisms and describe his computational alternative to al-Kūhī's geometrical method in detail. They also present an edition of the Arabic passages concerned together with an English translation.
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## INDEX

**Thèmes** : 10. Histoire des Sciences et des Techniques

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